GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4328
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2001
DEVELOPMENT OF WASTELAND
PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL;RATNA SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the budget allocated for Wasteland Development Programme during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the manner in which this amount was spent, State-wise;

(c) the benefits accrued therefrom, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have any plan to allot agriculture land to the landless workers; and

(e) if so, the details of such allotments made during the said period, State-wise ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing anIntegrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP). The budget allocated under IWDP during each of the last three years and the current year is given as under:-

Sl.No.	Year	Outlay (Rs.in crores)
1.	1998-1999	82.10
2.	1999-2000	82.00
3.	2000-2001	130.00
4.	2001-2002	210.00

(b) & (c) IWDP is a demand-driven programme and funds are released on project to project basis. The watershed development projects under this programme are implemented over a period of 4 to 5 years with the active participation of the local people through the Watershed Associations and Watershed Committees. Successful implementation of these projects result in benefits such as enhancement in productivity of land by checking soil erosion and increase in ground water table, employment generation, improvement in the economic status of the people living in the project areas etc. Funds allocated to IWDP in a particular year are released to ZPs/DRDAsfor ongoing projects as well as for new projects under the programme. The details of funds released (state-wise) under IWDP during last three years and current year upto 31.07.2001, is contained in Annexure-I.

(d) & (e): The distribution of wasteland is done by State Governments/UTs depending on the availability as land is a State Subject. The total area of wasteland distributed throughout the country till March, 2000 is 147.47 lakh acres. The state-wise distribution has been given in Annexure-II. While distributingland, the interest of the poor landless agricultural workers is always kept in view by the Government..

ANNEXURE I

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (d) & (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.4328 due for reply on 21.08.2001.

DISTRIBUTION OF GOVT WASTELANDS AS ON MARCH, 2000.

SL.NO.	NAME OF STATE/UT	AREA DISTRIBUTED IN LAKH ACRES
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42.02

2. Assam 5.89

3. Bihar 13.21

4. Gujarat 13.81

5. Haryana 0.00
6. Himachal Pradesh 0.17

7 Karnataka 13.72

8. Kerala 4.57

9. Madhya Pradesh 0.79
10. Maharashtra 10.23
11. Manipur 0.32
12. Punjab 1.10
13. Orissa 7.26
14. Tamil Nadu 2.07
15. Tripura 1.32
16. Uttar Pradesh 24.89
17. West Bengal 4.32
18. Goa 0.05
19. Mizoram 0.74
20. Rajasthan 0.93
21. Delhi 0.06

Total 147.47

ANNEXURE II

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (d) & (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.4328 due for reply on 21.08. 2001.

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